

Attorney's Docket: 1999US001
Serial No.: 09/738,623
Group: 1751

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 24, 2005, has been carefully considered together with the references cited therein. The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. The amendments made herein are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present Application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

CLAIM STATUS

Claims 16-32 and 35-39 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants has cancelled claims 16 – 32 and 35 - 38 without prejudice to filing a continuing application. Claims 31, 32 and 39 remain pending in the Application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

The Office has maintained the following rejections:

1. The rejection of claims 16-22, 26-28 and 35-38 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bragg (US 4,430,243);
2. The rejection of claims 29-30 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bragg in view of Kravetz et al. (4,025,453); and
3. The rejection of claims 23-25 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bragg in view of Chapple et al. (US 5,536,441).

Claims 16 - 30, and 35 - 38 have been cancelled, thus, the rejection with respect to those claims is now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

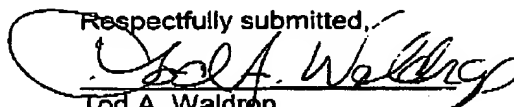
The Office states that claims 31 and 32 and 39 are allowable.

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As the total number of claims does not exceed the number of claims originally paid for, no fee is believed due. However if an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the present Application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, she is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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